

Minutes of the Veneta City Council

Lane County Fire District No. 1, Downstairs Training Room, 88050 Territorial Rd., Veneta, Oregon

January 25, 2011

Present: Mayor Sharon Hobart-Hardin, Brittany Boothe, Thomas Cotter, Marion Esty, and Sandra Larson

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder; Shauna Hartz, Finance Director; Brian Issa, Community Services Director; Kyle Schauer; Public Works Superintendent; Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder; Linda Boothe, and Herb Vloedman

Mayor Hobart-Hardin called the Veneta City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. SWEARING-IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBER

Thomas Cotter was sworn in to the Veneta City Council by Assistant City Recorder Darci Henneman.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Boothe, 25127 Hunter Rd., Veneta, OR

Ms. Boothe asked the Council to again reconsider putting the new play structure at Fern Park. She applauded the Council for all they have done to get the play structure for Fern Park but she felt it could be better used at another park. She said a survey should be done to ask residents where a new play structure would get the most use.

3. PUBLIC HEARING –Veneta Pipeline Project

Mayor Hobart-Hardin asked the audience if they would like to forego Brian's power point presentation because most everyone present had already seen it at previous meetings. No changes have been made to the presentation. If there were no objections, Mayor Hobart-Hardin suggested opening the Veneta Water Pipeline Project Public Hearing.

Thomas Cotter said he had not seen Brian's presentation but that he could view it at another time.

By consensus of the Council and no objections from the public the power point presentation on the Veneta Water Pipeline Project was not shown at tonight's meeting.

1. Mayor Hobart-Hardin opened the Public Hearing at 7:07 p.m.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest or Ex-Parte Contacts

Mayor Hobart-Hardin, Sandra Larson and Brittany Boothe declared an ex-parte contact by attending the Veneta Water Pipeline Project Town Hall Meeting on January 18th.

3. Staff Report

City staff held a Town Hall meeting on January 18th at the fire station and provided a presentation and answered questions. Several audience questions focused on the current economic downturn and whether or not sufficient SDC revenue would be generated to meet the City's proposed revenue model. Attendees were informed that if they wanted to submit comments into the record for the project, they needed to submit materials either in writing or by speaking during tonight's public hearing. If the Council felt additional time is necessary to take public comments, the hearing can be continued to February 1. Council deliberation and decision on whether or not to move forward with the pipeline could take place at the February 14th Council meeting. Brian provided a project timeline schedule. Tonight's public hearing is for information only and does not require action from the Council.

4. Proponents

Herb Vloedman, 25112 Luther Lane, Veneta, OR

Mr. Vloedman appreciates the work the City has done and the forwarding thinking regarding the City's future water needs. The pipeline will provide a long-term solution to Veneta's water situation. But he shares other residents' concerns about how the pipeline will be paid for. He suggested the rate increases and SDCs should be raised at the same time.

5. Opponents

None

6. Questions from the Veneta City Council

In response to questions from Thomas Cotter, Brian said we don't know how we'll manage the existing well field but we are required to retain a redundant water source. A study will be conducted to see how we will integrate the two water sources. Some of the existing wells will be kept on line and two of the less productive wells may be decommissioned. We will be able to continue with our bulk water sales but no one will be able to tap into the water pipeline.

Ric said if at the end of the 10th year we need more than 4 million gallons per day we will be able to negotiate that. He said the contract language can be reviewed annually.

Kyle said the water from EWEB comes ready to drink, does not require filtering, and it's possible it can be mixed with our water. It also does not have the high iron content that our water does.

Mayor Hobart-Hardin said she is very proud of staff for working so hard on this project, that the City was in position to take advantage of the USDA Rural Development (RD) grant program, and that we were able to secure the funding. The Veneta water pipeline will secure water for the City of Veneta for the next 100 years.

In response to a question from Sandra Larson, Ric said staff agreed to settle on three million gallons of water per day verses four million gallons per day which may accommodate the City's water needs for the next 15 to 20 years.

7. Mayor Hobart-Hardin closed the Public Hearing at 7:26 p.m.

8. Deliberation and Decision

Not applicable

Ric thanked the community for all the support the pipeline received. He said the written comments provided as well as the speakers at the December 13th Eugene City Council meeting really made the difference in their unanimous vote in favor of the pipeline.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Sandra Larson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.
Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.

Vote: Marion Esty, aye; Thomas Cotter, aye; Mayor Hobart-Hardin, aye; Sandra Larson, aye; and Brittany Boothe, aye.

The consent agenda as approved included Minutes for January 11, 2011, Accounts Paid through January 18, 2011, and the Civic Calendar for February, 2011.

5. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

a. **FROM MAYOR/COUNCILORS**

- (1) Law Enforcement Activities Report, Sgt. Osborne, LCSO

Sgt. Osborne did not attend tonight's meeting because of the Public Hearing on the Veneta Water Pipeline Project.

- (2) Kiwanis Children's Cancer Cure Month Proclamation

Mayor Hobart-Hardin read the proclamation presented by the Kiwanis Club and proclaimed February 2011 as Kiwanis's Children's Cancer Cure month. She thanked the Kiwanis Club for all they do for our community.

b. **COUNCIL/COMMITTEE LIAISONS**

Sandra Larson said the Fern Ridge School District and Board are facing a major deficit of 1.4 million dollars. She did not attend the last meeting but was provided an update. Superintendent Dennis Freidrich presented several options to the Board. One of which would be a 1.2 million dollar operating levy. The Board also discussed reorganizing the elementary schools; possibly by having kindergarten through second grade at one school and third through fifth grade at the other. The Board may also hold public hearings to hear from the community. The Board also reapplied for the bond funds that were available but voted down in November. The District's new application was accepted but is number 13th on the funding list.

6. **STAFF REPORTS**

a. **FINANCE DIRECTOR.....SHAUNA HARTZ**

- (1) **Resolution 1043 – A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK EXHIBIT "A" OF RESOLUTION 953 AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED BY RESOLUTION NO. 981, NO. 1007, AND NO. 1039**

Shauna said several City employees have requested the City offer automatic payroll deposits. In order to do this the payroll period dates need to be changed in the employee handbook. Staff needs a couple more days to allow for electronic transactions between banks. Pay dates will continue to be the 1st and the 16th of every month.

Mayor Hobart-Hardin said it was a good idea. Thomas Cotter and Marion Esty agreed.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve Resolution 1043. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.

- (2) Second Quarter Financial Report for FY2010/11
Shauna reviewed the preliminary FY 2010/11 Year-to-Date Financial Report through the end of December 2010 with the Council and asked if they had any questions.

The Council had no questions.

b. **CITY ADMINISTRATOR.....RIC INGHAM**


- (1) Ric thanked Shauna and commended her for delivering the Second Quarter Financial Report for FY 2010/11 three weeks into the New Year.

He reminded Councilors the 2011 Goal Setting Session is Saturday, February 5th at City Hall from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sheryl will provide meeting materials early that week for review and a facilitator from LCOG will conduct the meeting.

February 14th is the next Council and Urban Renewal Agency meeting. Next step strategies will be on the Urban Renewal Agency agenda for the downtown and transit center projects.


7. **OTHER**
None

8. **ADJOURN**
Mayor Hobart-Hardin adjourned the Veneta City Council at 8:42 p.m.



Sharon Hobart-Hardin, Mayor

ATTEST:



Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder
(minutes prepared by Dhenneman)